GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:167
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
ETHANOL PRODUCTION FROM SUGARCANE
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities for producing ethanol from molasses are available in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide facility for producing ethanol directly from sugarcane juice;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of progress made in this regard so far; and

(f) the time by which this scheme is likely to be finalized?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. According to the industry sources, there are 105 distilleries having capacity of production of about 1500 million liters of anhydrous ethanol annually which is sufficient for 10% blending with petrol at the current level of petrol consumption.

(c): Government does not provide any facility for production of ethanol. The facilities have to be created by the sugar factory itself.

(d), (e) & (f): Do not arise.